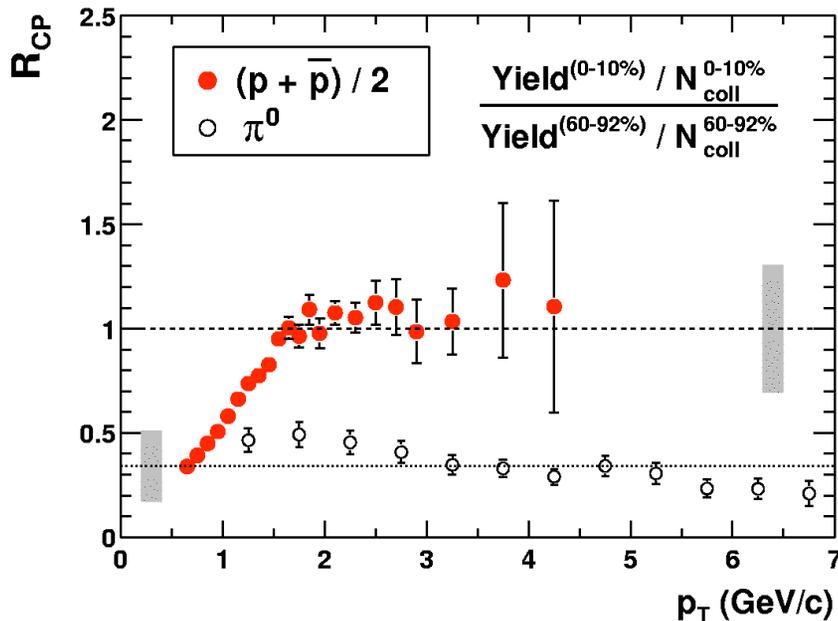


# Identified Charged Hadron Production at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=62.4$ GeV Au+Au in RHIC-PHENIX

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# Physics Motivation



PHENIX: PRL 91, 172301 (2003), PRC 69, 034909 (2004)  
 Au+Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV

- Strong suppression of  $\pi^0$  yields above  $p_T \sim 2$  GeV/c at RHIC, but no suppression for proton and antiproton at intermediate  $p_T$  (2-5 GeV/c): **“Baryon anomaly at RHIC”**.
- Quark recombination models are able to reproduce the data qualitatively.
- **But no SPS data for intermediate  $p_T$  baryons**, don't know the applicability of recombination model works at SPS.

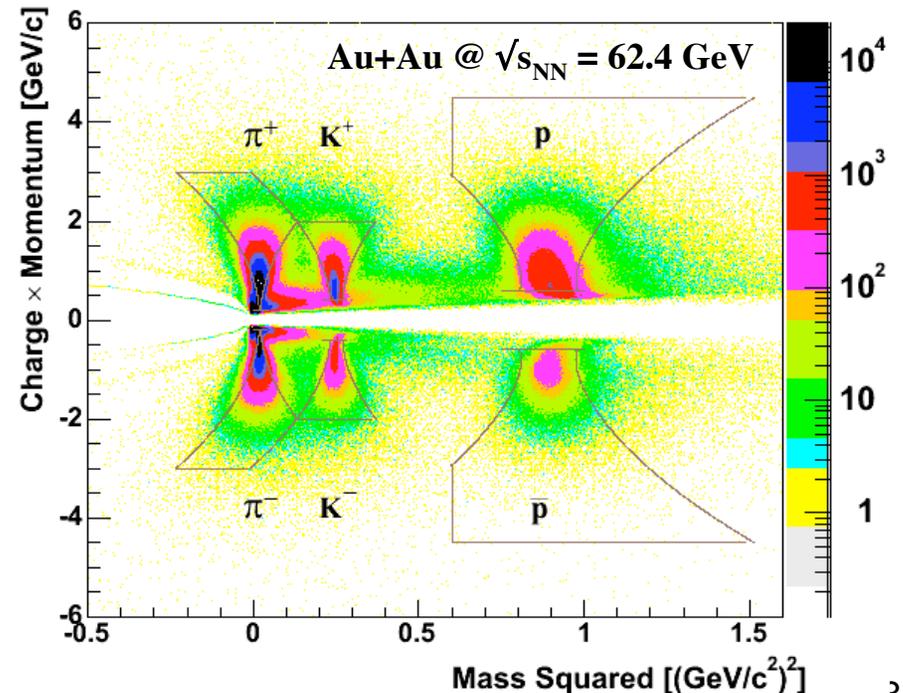
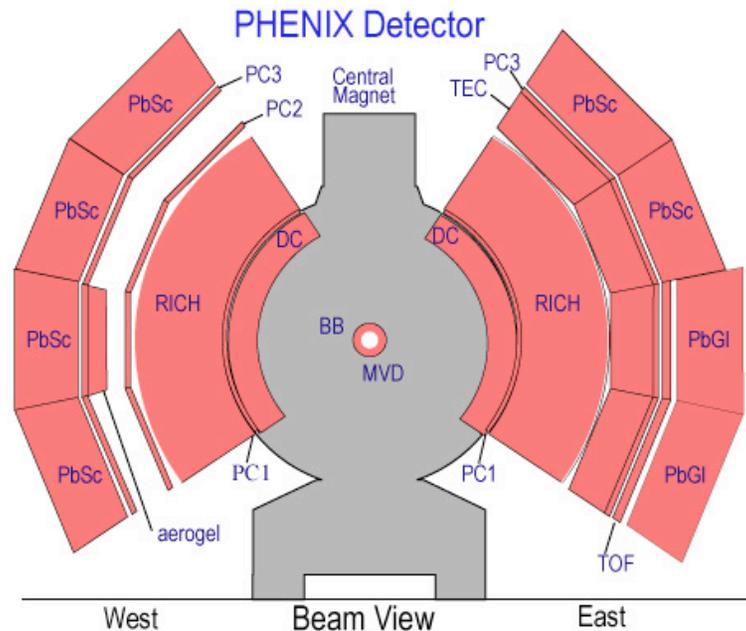
**Importance to measure the excitation function from SPS to RHIC:**

- Onset of baryon anomaly.
- Baryon production and transport.
- Radial flow effect.
- Particle production at low  $p_T$ .

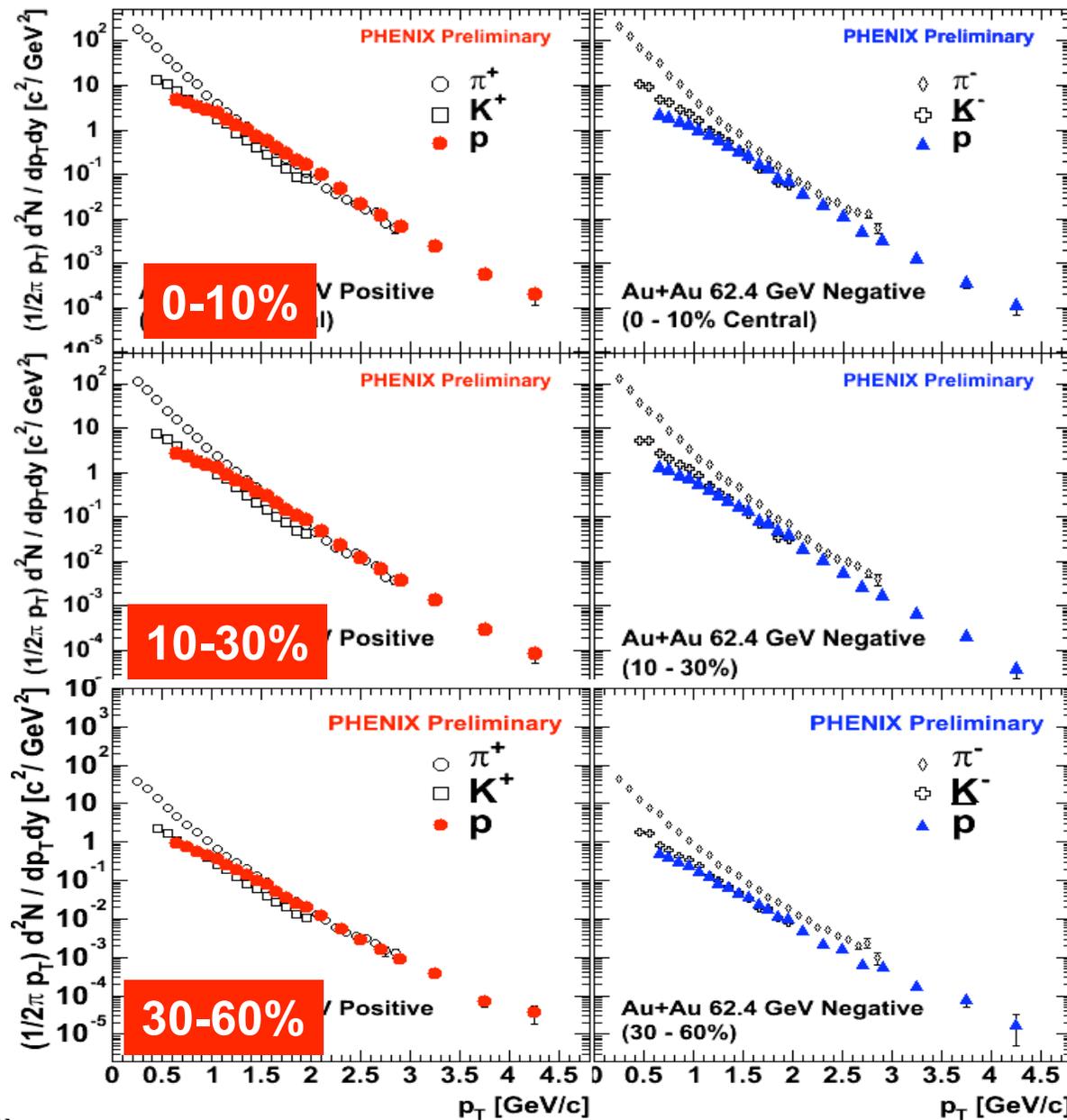
**Au+Au at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 62.4$  GeV data can fill the gap between SPS (17 GeV) and RHIC top energy.**

# Data Analysis

- **Data set:** Au+Au 62.4 GeV, data taken during Run4 (2004).
  - **Statistics:** analyzed 37 M minimum bias (MB) events.
  - **Detectors:** Drift Chamber, PC1, BBC and TOF for PID charged analysis.
  - **Centrality:** subdivided MB events based on BBC charge distributions (0-10%, 10-30% and 30-60%).
  - **Corrections:** Acceptance, in flight decay, detector occupancy using MC simulations.
- ❖ **NOTE: No weak decay feed-down correction applied.**

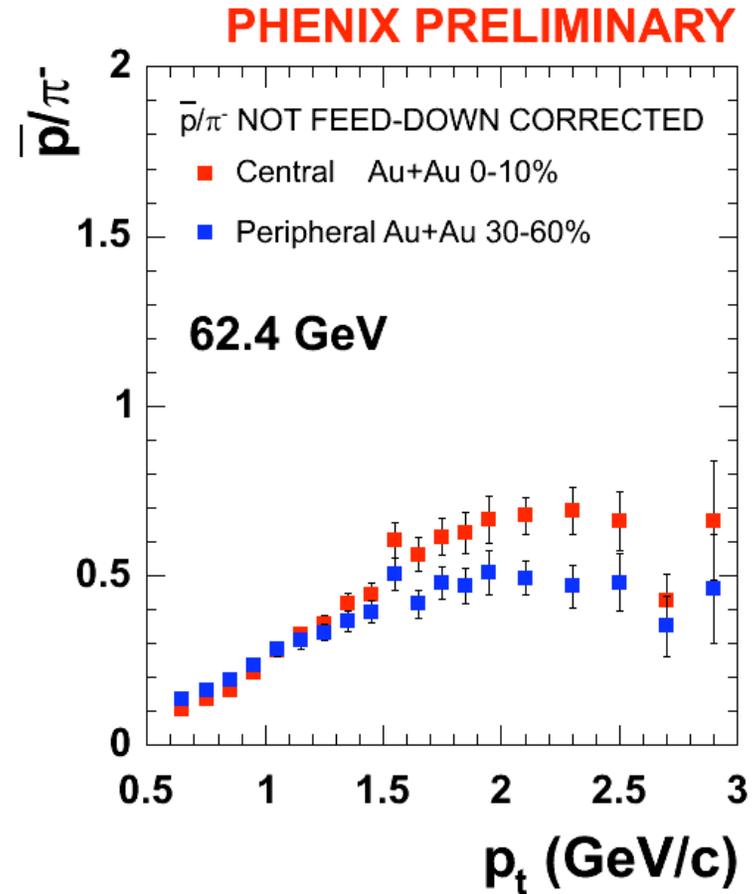
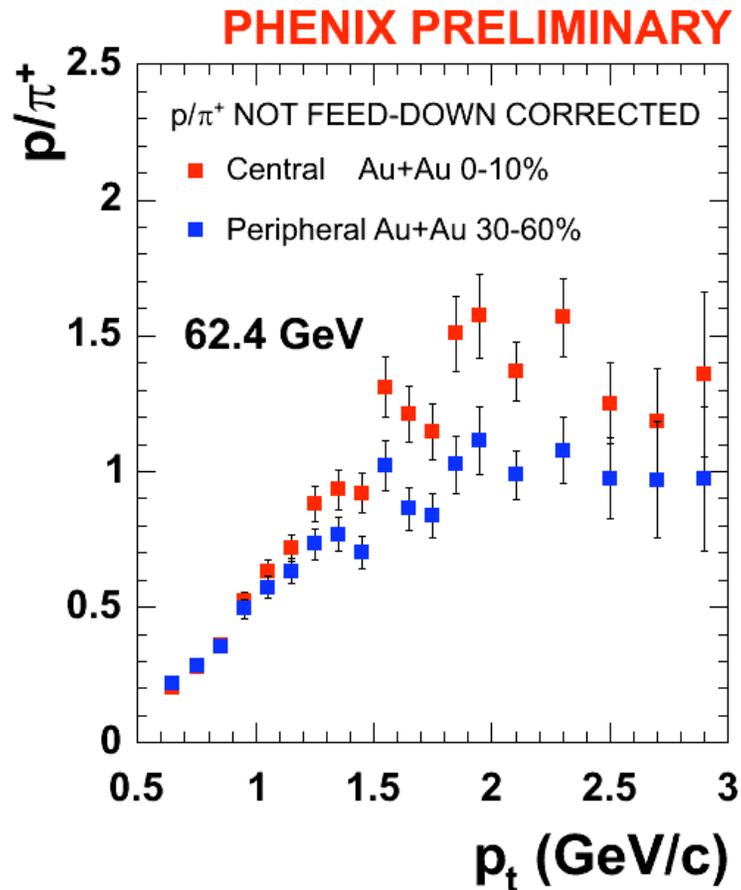


# Results: $p_T$ spectra (centrality dep.)



- Large fraction of protons are seen at intermediate  $p_T$ .
- Less for antiproton, for all centrality bins (up to 30-60%).

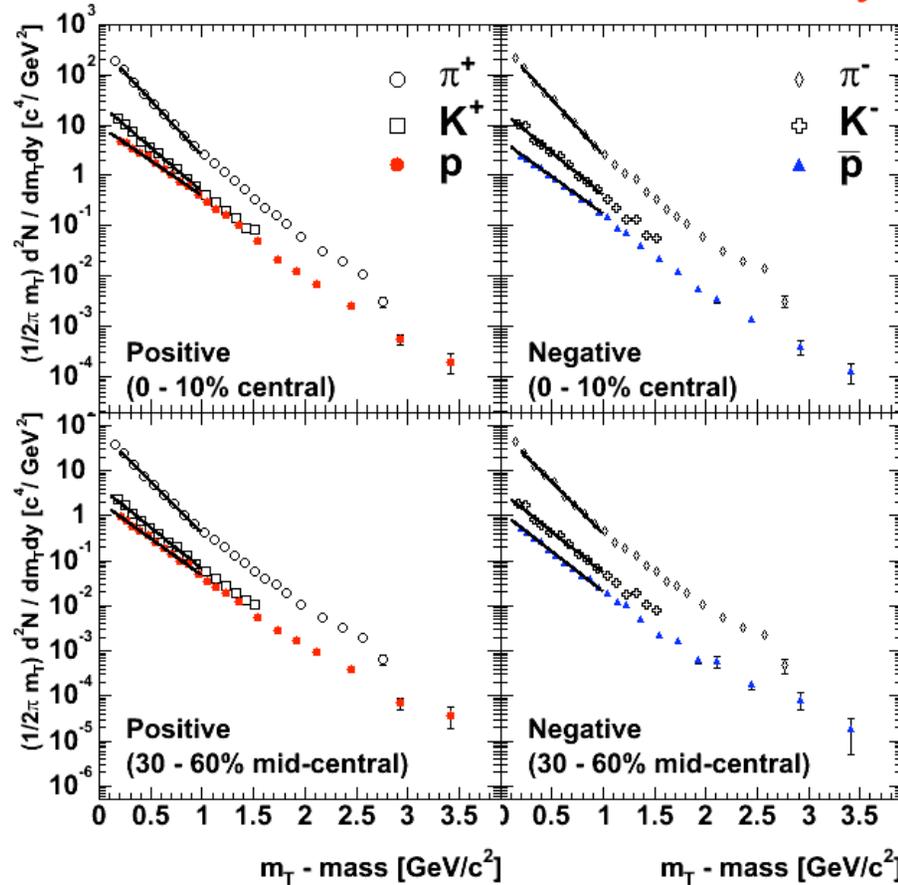
# $p/\pi$ ratios



- $p/\pi^+ > 1$  at intermediate  $p_T$  but less for antiproton ( $\bar{p}/\pi^- \sim 0.7$ ).
- Weaker centrality dependence for both ratios than those of 200 GeV.
- Indicating more baryon transport and less p-pbar pair production at 62 GeV than 200 GeV.

# $m_T$ spectra & inverse slopes

Au+Au 62.4 GeV PHENIX Preliminary



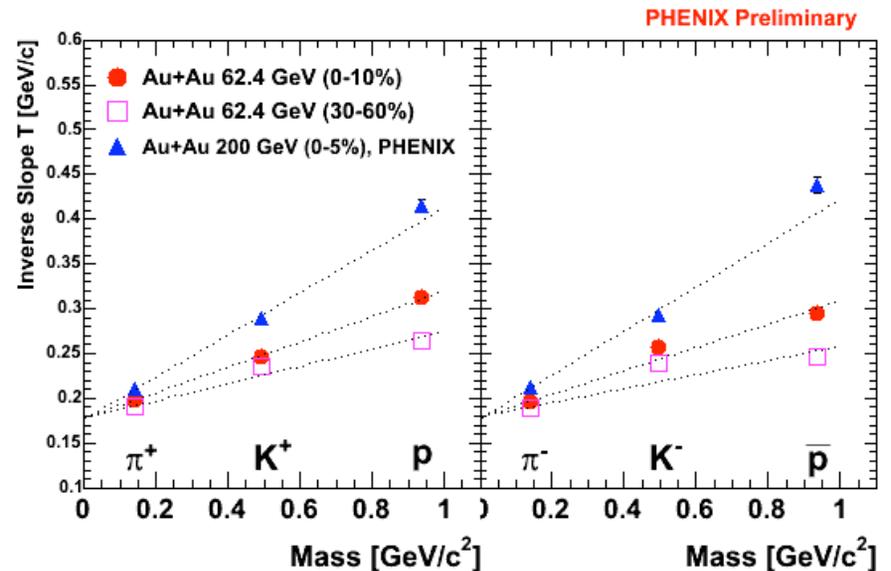
Fitted by  $m_T$  exponential function.

- Fit range:

•  $\pi$ : 0.2 - 1.0 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>.

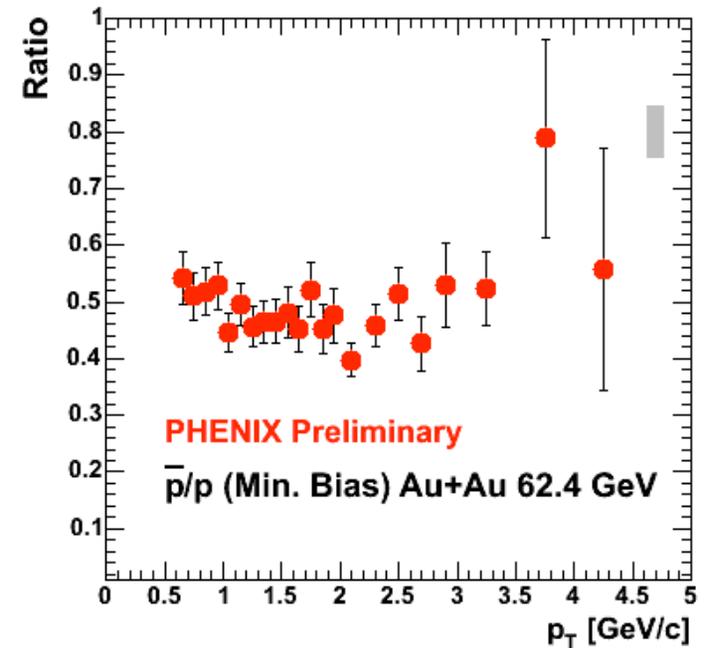
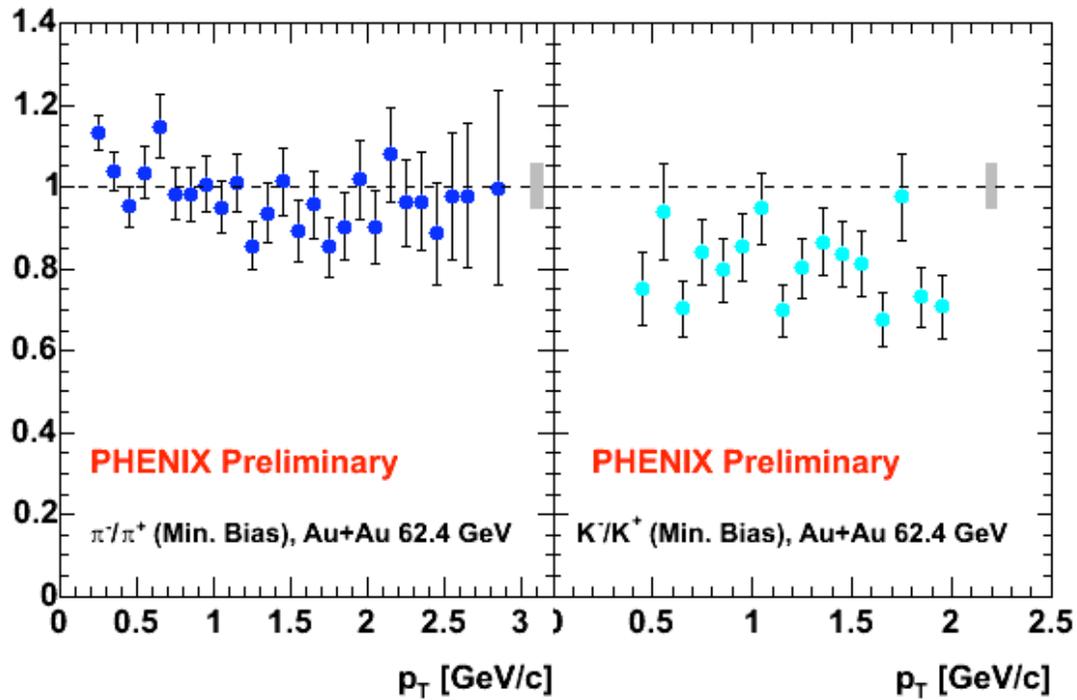
• p and K: 0.1 - 1.0 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>.

• Extracted inverse slopes



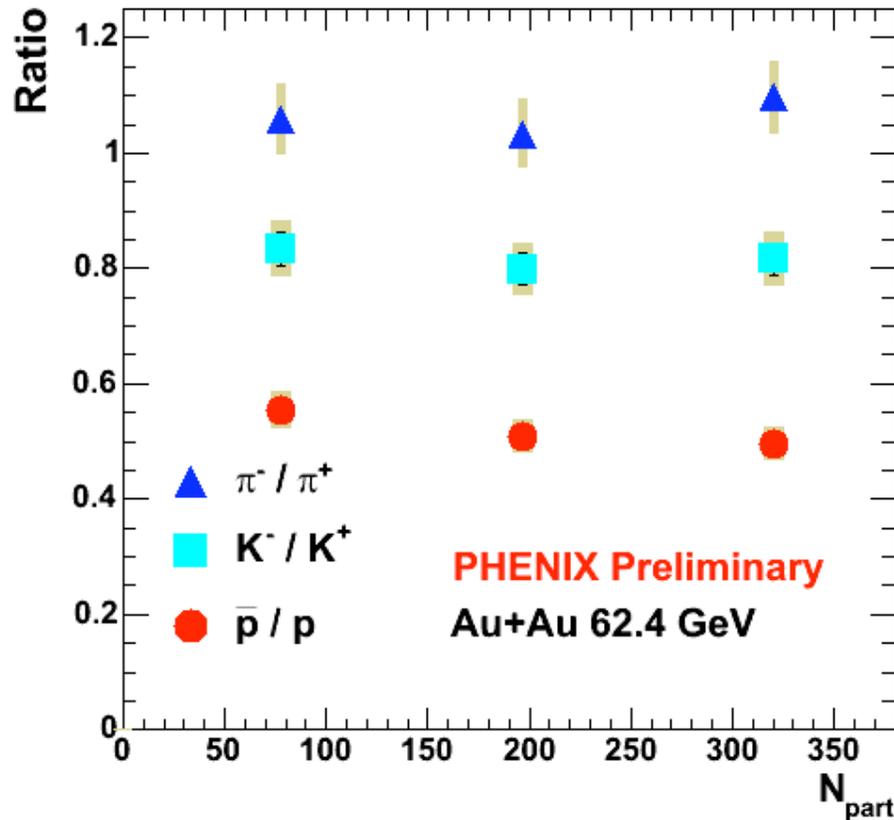
- Large mass effect seen for central (radial flow effect).
- Slopes for 0-10% at 62 GeV are smaller than 200 GeV central.

# -/+ Ratios vs. $p_T$ (Min. bias)



**Flat  $p_T$  dependence for all ratios.**

# Centrality dep. of -/+ Ratios

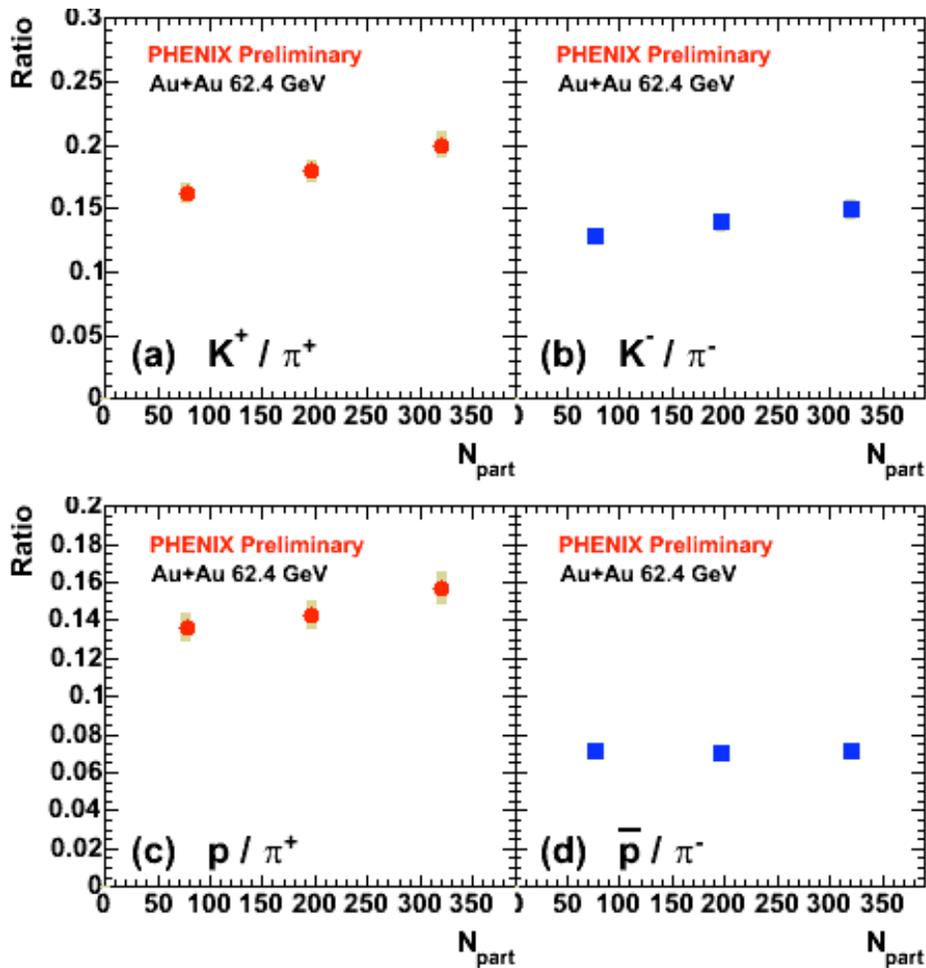


**Flat centrality dependence for all ratios from 0-10% to 30-60% centrality bins.**

- **Particle ratios (Central 0-10%)**

- $\pi^- / \pi^+ = 1.097 \pm 0.022$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.063$  (sys.) PHENIX Preliminary
- $K^- / K^+ = 0.816 \pm 0.027$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.046$  (sys.) PHENIX Preliminary
- $\bar{p} / p = 0.495 \pm 0.012$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.029$  (sys.) PHENIX Preliminary

# Centrality dep. of $K/\pi$ and $p/\pi$

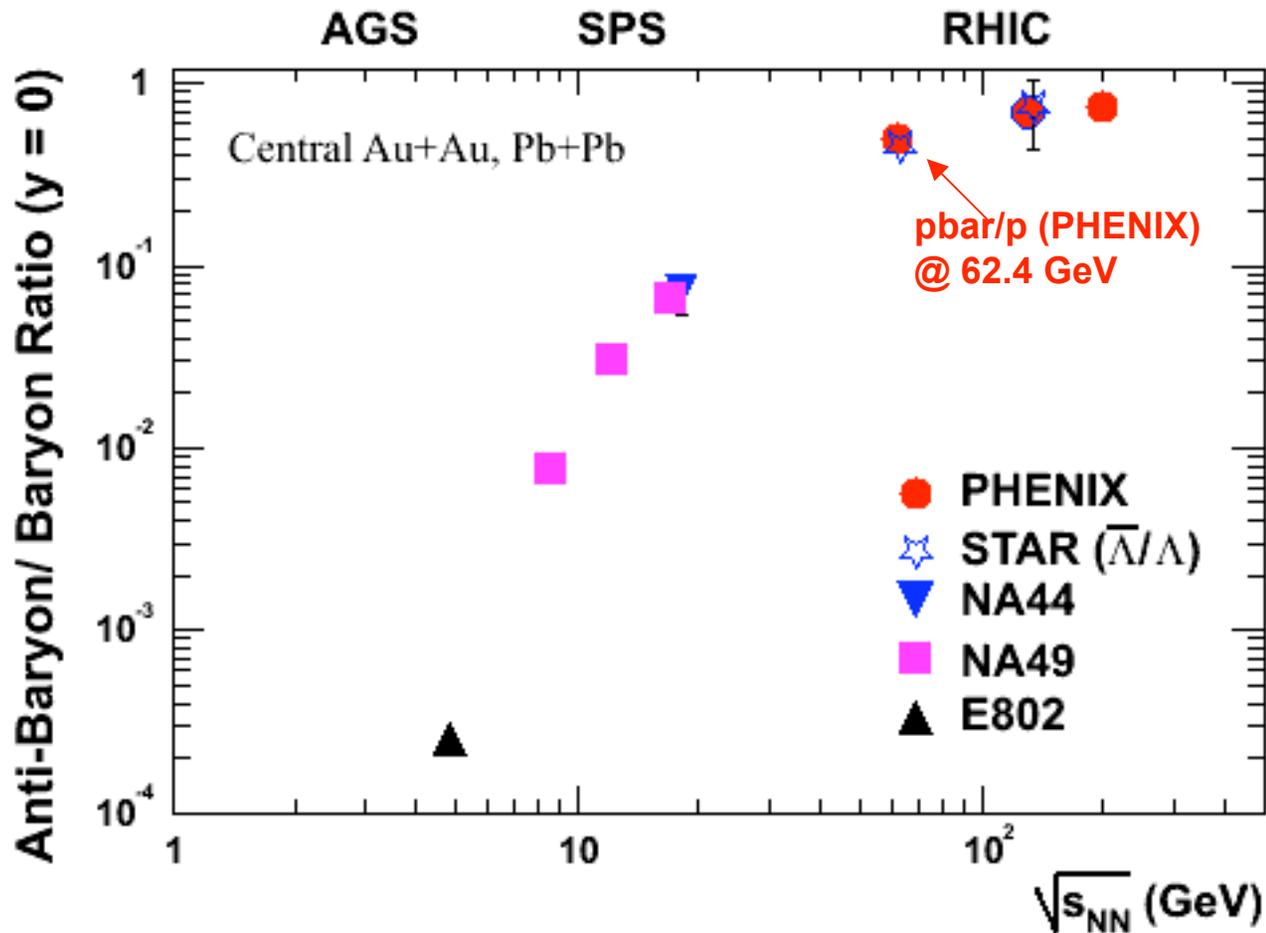


- Derived from  $dN/dy$  at mid-rapidity.
- In measured  $N_{part}$  range:
  - $K/\pi$ : increasing as a function of centrality.
  - $p/\pi^+$ : seems increasing.
  - $pbar/\pi^-$ : constant.

## • Ratios (Central 0-10%):

- $K^+/\pi^+ = 0.199 \pm 0.003$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.010$  (sys.) **PHENIX Preliminary**
- $K^-/\pi^- = 0.148 \pm 0.005$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.008$  (sys.) **PHENIX Preliminary**
- $p/\pi^+ = 0.156 \pm 0.002$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.008$  (sys.) **PHENIX Preliminary**
- $pbar/\pi^- = 0.070 \pm 0.002$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.004$  (sys.) **PHENIX Preliminary**

# Antibaryon/ baryon ratios vs. $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (@ mid-rapidity)



## Experimental Data:

### AGS:

- E802, 2650 PRL 83, (1998)

### SPS:

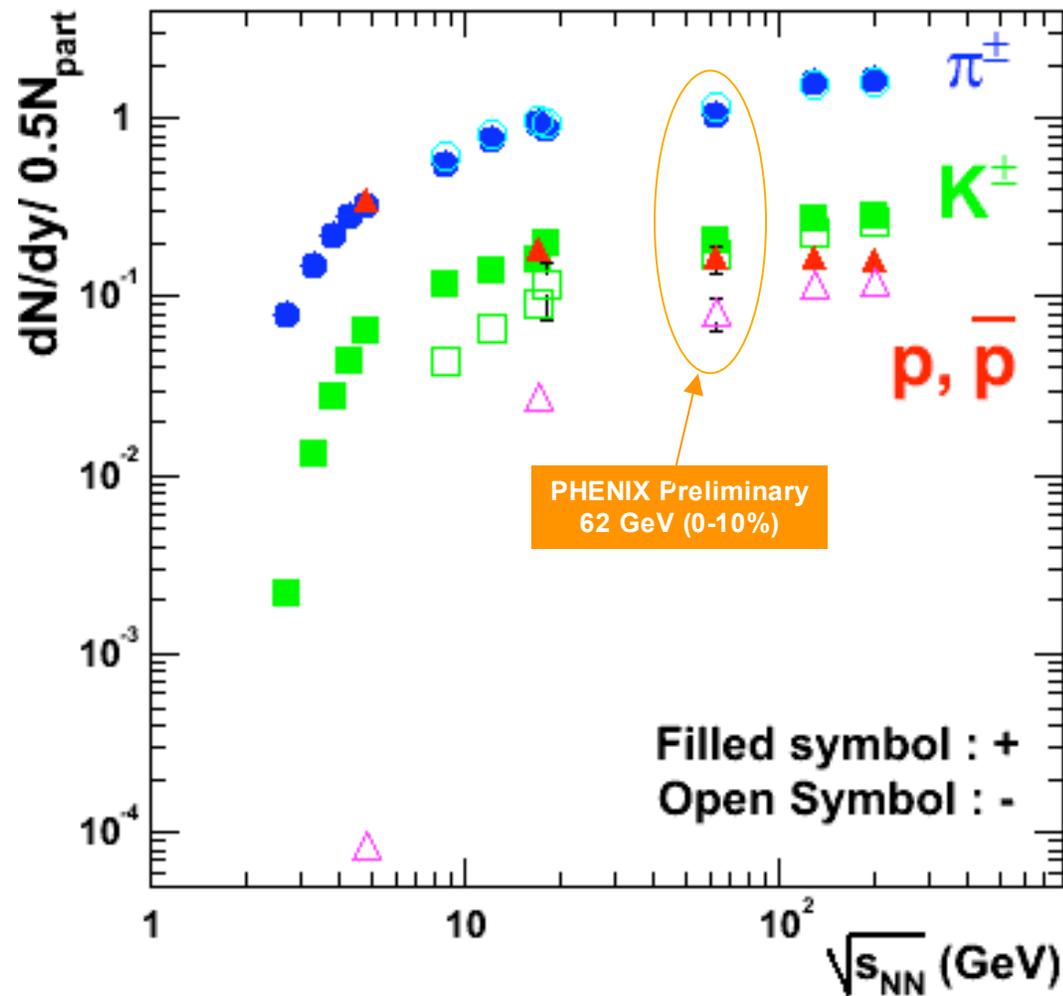
- NA44: PRC 66, 044907 (2002)
- NA49: J. of Phys. G 30, S357 (2004)

### RHIC:

- PHENIX  
62 GeV (preliminary, no feed-down)  
PRL 88, 242301 (2002), PRC 69, 034909 (2003), PRL 89 092302 (2002).
- STAR  
62 GeV (Preliminary, HQ2004); 130 GeV  
PRL 89, 092301 (2002).

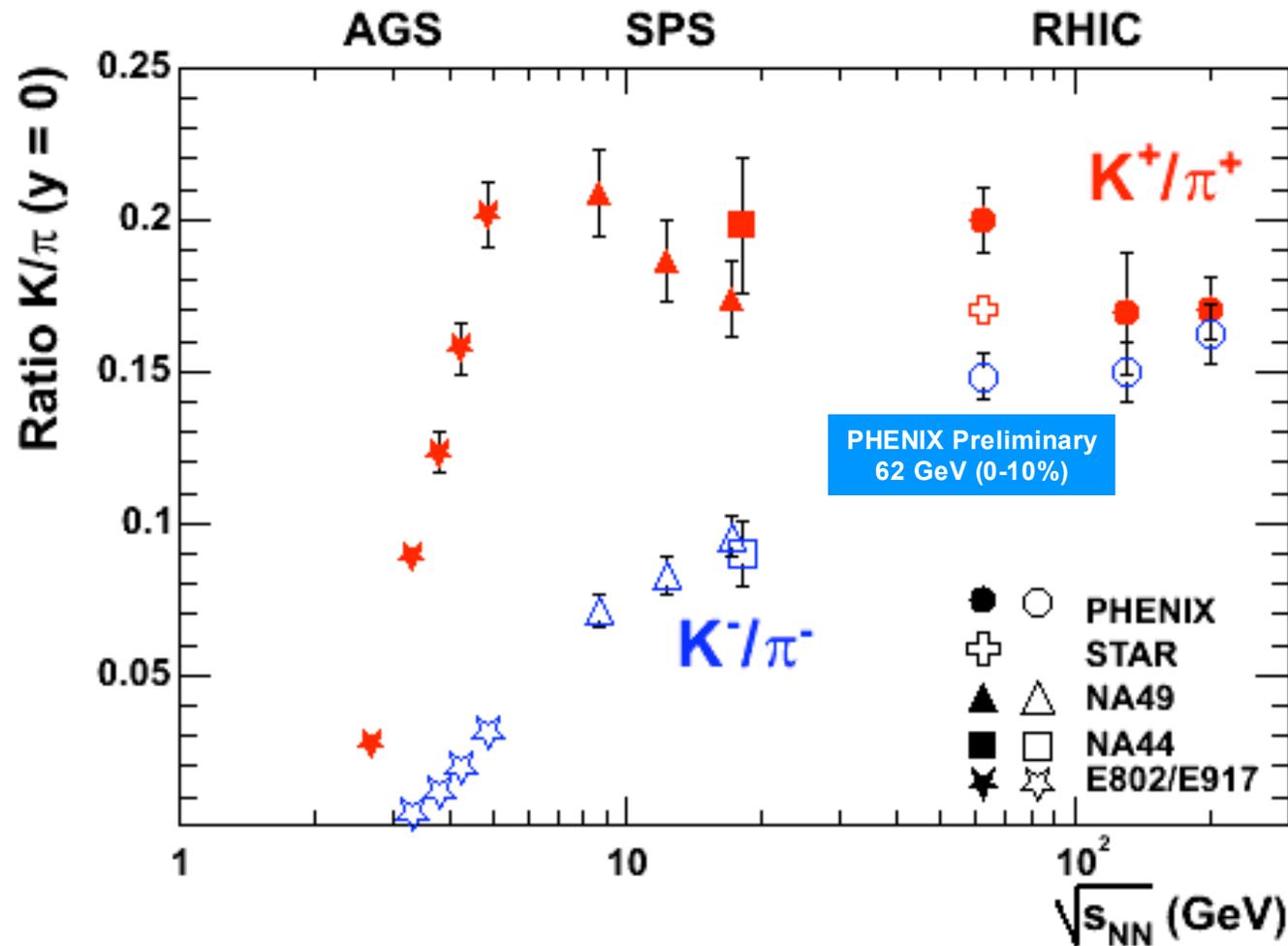
- Follow the smooth curve from SPS to RHIC.
- Consistent with  $\bar{\Lambda}/\Lambda$  (STAR preliminary) at 62 GeV.

# dN/dy vs. $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (central)



dN/dy per  $N_{part}$  pair: smooth energy dependence from SPS to RHIC.

# K/ $\pi$ vs. $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$



\* STAR  $K^+/\pi^+$ : preliminary data from SQM04, J. Takahashi

- $K^-/\pi^-$  : follow the smooth curve from SPS to RHIC.
- $K^+/\pi^+$ : similar to SPS top energy.

# Summary

- We presented  $\pi^\pm, K^\pm, p$  and antiproton  $p_T$  spectra, inverse slopes, yields and particle ratios in Au+Au 62.4 GeV.
- Observed a large proton contribution at intermediate  $p_T$ , as seen in 200 GeV data, but less for antiprotons.
- Antiproton-to-proton ratio is  $\sim 0.5$  at 62 GeV, which indicates less  $p$ - $\bar{p}$  pair production and larger baryon transport than 200 GeV.
- Smooth excitation function for both yields and ratios from SPS to RHIC.
- Outlook:
  - $R_{AA}$  for PID charged hadrons by using ISR  $p+p$  data.